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(combined)
arrow 66. The skirt is then deformed plastically, such as through a crimping or flaring operation, as illustrated by arrows 68, to secure the skirt within the stemmed washer. In the illustrated embodiment, skirt 62 is deformed so as to provide for free rotation of the fastener within the stemmed washer. Alternatively, the deforming operation performed on the skirt may be such as to fixedly secure the nut with relation to the stemmed washer to prevent their mutual rotation.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 3, 10 and 15.

Please amend the claims as follows:

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Sub 4. 1. (Amended) An internally threaded fastener assembly comprising:
a stemmed washer having a washer portion, a standoff portion integral with the washer portion and extending therefrom, and a retaining portion integral with the washer portion; and
an internally threaded fastener disposed adjacent to the washer portion and retained rotatably within assembly with the stemmed washer by the retaining portion.

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Sub 0. 4. (Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the standoff portion forms a hollow right cylinder.

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Sub 6. 7. (Amended) An internally threaded fastener assembly comprising:
a threaded nut having a lower peripheral flange; and
a base having a washer portion, a standoff portion extending from the washer portion, and a retaining skirt portion extending integrally from the washer portion and capturing the peripheral flange of the threaded nut to retain the threaded nut rotatably in assembly with the base.